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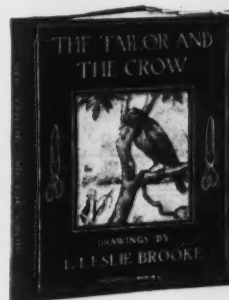
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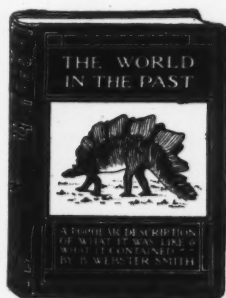
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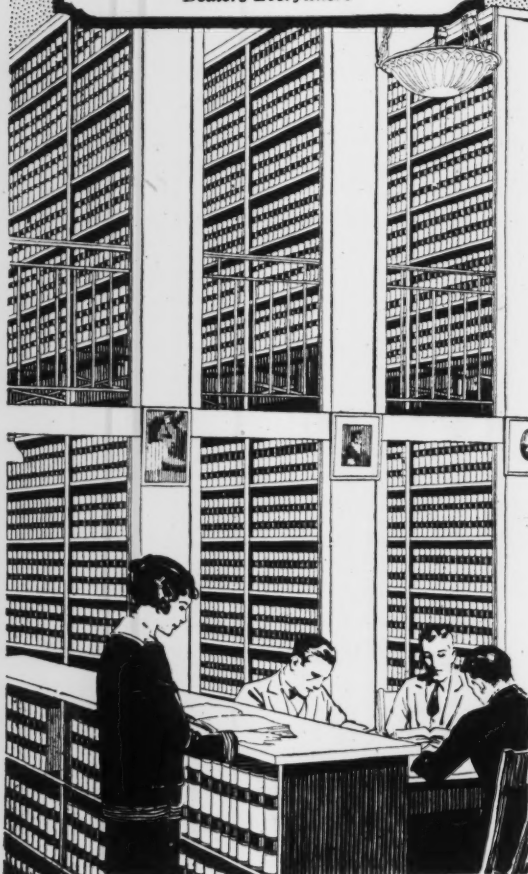
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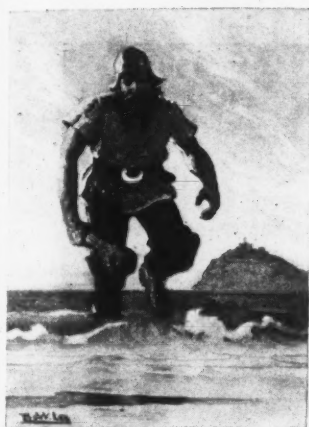
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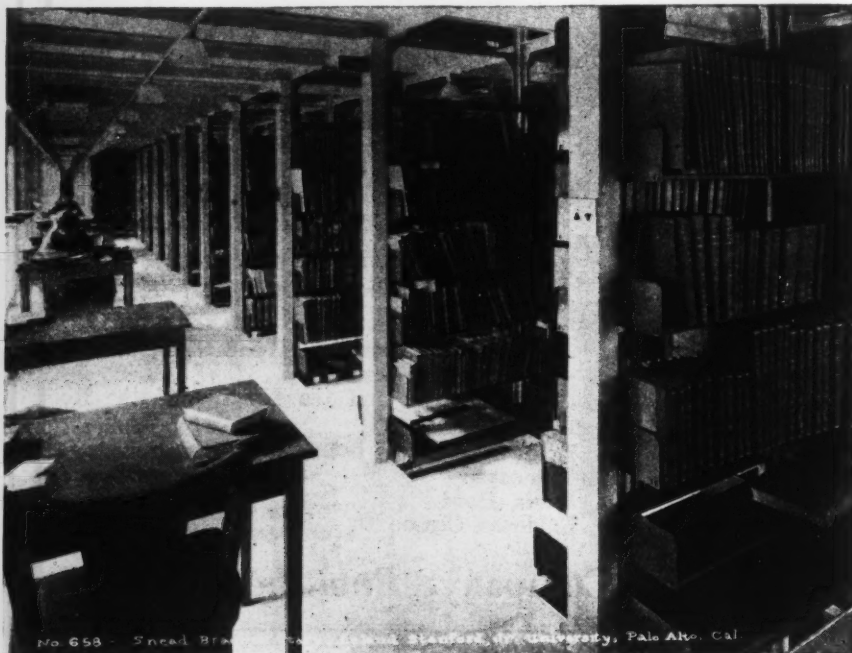
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIBRARIES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.....	LADISLAV JAN ZIVNY	651
PUBLIC LIBRARY ADMINISTRATION IN THE UNITED STATES, 1918-1925...		658
<i>Letha Marion Davidson, Alberta Louise Brown, Karl Brown, David J. Haykin, Lester D. Condit.</i>		
THE SIGNIFICANCE OF LOS ANGELES' NEW LIBRARY BUILDING,		
	<i>Faith Holmes Hyers</i>	663
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH SERVICE OFFERED AMERICAN LIBRARIES.....		666
BOOKS FOR ALL IN GREENVILLE COUNTY, S. C.		667
THE A. L. A. PHILADELPHIA EXHIBIT.....	<i>Joseph L. Wheeler</i>	668
A PIONEER: THE LIBRARY BUREAU.....	<i>Harry R. Datz</i>	669
EDITORIAL NOTES		671
LIBRARY BOOK OUTLOOK		672
LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS		673
<i>The A. S. L. I. B. — A. L. A. Bookbuying Committee — Western Massachusetts Library Club — New England School Libraries Association — Oklahoma Library Association.</i>		
LIBRARY OPPORTUNITIES		674
CURRENT LITERATURE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY		675
AMONG LIBRARIANS		676
RECENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES		678



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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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Libraries in Czechoslovakia

By LADISLAV JAN ZIVNY, Prague University Library

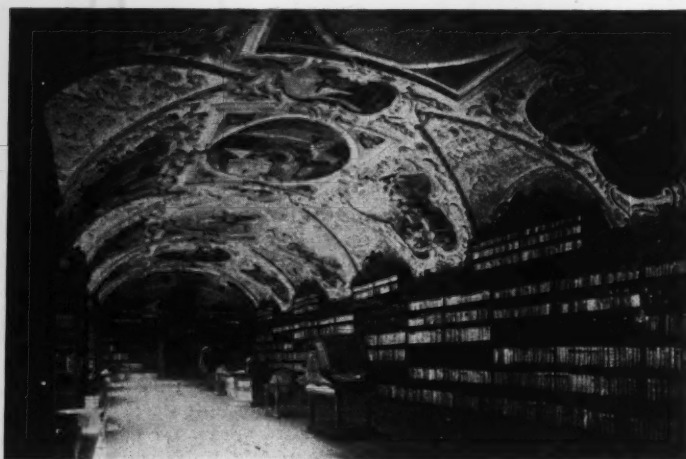
THE land now known as Czechoslovakia, situated in the center of Europe, has been affected by nearly all the political and social upheavals which have shaken the Continent. Its great attempt at the beginning of the 15th century to shake off the yoke of the Roman ecclesiastical despotism, known as the Czech or Hussite religious reformation, was the cause of fifteen years of stubborn warfare, which did, it is true, assure Bohemia of religious independence and render firm her political self-determination, but at the heavy cost of many cultural treasures which had been accumulated under the wise rule of King Charles I, known to history as the Emperor Charles IV. The Czechoslovak revolution against the Habsburgs in 1618, for which twenty-seven leaders of the movement paid with their lives in Prague on the 21st of June 1621, and some thirty thousand Protestant families by perpetual banishment shortly afterwards, was the signal for one of the longest and most disastrous of European wars, terminated thirty years later by the Peace of Westphalia, and but

a hundred years afterwards the nation had once more to undergo the afflictions of the Seven Years War with Frederick of Prussia.

In spite, however, of these heavy national crises, and the fact that for nearly four hundred years the Habsburg régime sought persistently to strangle the most productive of its lands, an unquenchable thirst for education was ever its guiding star and its salvation in times of stress. Plans for the foundation of a university had already been conceived during the last quarter of the 12th century by King Wenceslas II, and the Czech University at Prague, founded in 1348 by Charles, is the first of its kind in Central or Eastern Europe. From it came the reformers, among them John Huss and that great world-figure, John Amos Komensky (Comenius), teacher of the nations. The Czech Renaissance at the close of the eighteenth century, stimulated by the memory of the nation's glorious past as well as by the aims of the French Revolution, was a re-birth of the whole of Slavdom, both in its ideals as in the energy with which Dobrovsky, Kollár, Jungmann, Pal-



THE CHATEAU AND LIBRARY AT ROUDNICE



IN THE STRAHOV LIBRARY

ack, Havlicek and others struck out on a new path for the ideal of cultural and political self-determination. And finally, the liberation of the people is the crowning of its self-instruction and a splendid proof of the infallibility of the old national maxim: By enlightenment to liberty.

Just as schools were an object of the concentrated labours of the nation from the earliest times, so too were books and libraries. In nearly all the old legends preserved from the eleventh and subsequent centuries is already to be found mention of religious and liturgical books. Thus for example in the legend of Cyril and Methodius, dating from the year 871, where it is related that the Czech Voyvode Borivoj brought books from Moravia to Prague after his conversion. A collection of books, certainly one of the oldest, was possessed by a school at Budec in the tenth century, and one of the pupils of this school, later Prince Wenceslas, used to read, according to the Petersburg legend, books in Latin, Greek, and Slavonic. In manuscripts of the tenth century, now preserved in the Vatican library, is to be found the statement that these manuscripts were used by the same Czech prince. In the legend of Kristian, but little later, there is also mention of books in Bohemia.

At the end of the 10th century, in 993, the Benedictines founded in the Brevnov Monastery a library, which in 1420 amid the Hussite storms was destroyed. Soon afterwards, in 1032, there arose a new Slavonic Library in the Sázava Monastery, which was broken up by the expulsion of the Slavonic monks in 1096. From this library comes the famous gospel now preserved at Rheims, to which, as a Slavonic book, attention was drawn by Peter the Great of Russia. The library of the Rajhrad Monastery also dates from the eleventh century. In the twelfth century

arose the library at Vysehrad from a gift of books from Prince Sobeslav (1129), while in the second half of the same century Bishop Daniel zealously increased the collection of manuscripts in the library of the Cathedral of St. Vitus. From the same time dates the library of the Monastery at Teplá, founded by the Czech nobleman Hroznata, and a catalog of this, dating from the thirteenth century, is still extant. According to this catalog the library contained bibles, expositions of the gospels, passionals, and sermons. In the thirteenth century were founded libraries in the Monasteries at Opatovice, Zbraslav, and the famous library at

Strahov. The library at Vyssí Brod, of which has preserved a catalog from the thirteenth century, was certainly older than these. In the fourteenth century Bishop Jan of Drazice and Arnost of Pardubice are known to have been keen collectors of books. The greatest state library in the Republic, the Prague Public and University Library, arose without doubt at the time of the foundation of the University; the earliest known mention of it dates from 1366, when it received a gift of forty-eight manuscripts; and its oldest catalog of these gifts is also extant.

The University Library has, as have Czech books as a whole, an eventful history. The disturbances of war seriously damaged it, while it was more than once impoverished by incapable administration; while the Jesuit censure committed barbarous atrocities upon it after the bloody quelling of the Czech rising in 1620. Nevertheless it was more than once greatly enriched by valuable gifts. The astronomer Jan Sindel presented it in the sixteenth century with some two hundred books on mathematics and medicine, the nobleman Frankenstein sent it a whole wagon-load of books in 1625, while Count Jiri of Martinice in 1651 and Count Jan of Wallenstein in 1661 presented it with their entire libraries. The Jesuit administration in no way helped the library. In 1747 it still possessed, in spite of numerous losses, some six thousand eight hundred volumes. Two years later these were increased by a gift of four thousand volumes, duplicates from the Court Library in Vienna. After 1769 the library was open to the public free of charge four times a week. The beautiful hall of the Clementinum was completed in 1722, and is the library now situated in a park of the great building of the old

Clementinum, which is being restored in conformity with modern requirements to serve exclusively for this library and the National Library newly established in 1925. The most important additions to the library in the eighteenth century were a gift of ten thousand volumes from Count Fr. Kinsky, in 1777 and the libraries devoted at his suggestion to public use by the family of the Kinskys.

Of the other libraries of Prague the oldest one still flourishing is the Chapter library, very rich in old printed books and manuscripts, among them being a manuscript of the Gospel of St. Mark of the fifth or sixth century. It possesses one thousand three hundred and sixty-six manuscripts, one thousand incunabula, and more than twenty thousand printed works. Equally famous is the library, already mentioned, at Strahov, which contains many manuscripts of value to Czech history, a series of first editions and numerous unique copies.

Thruout the century, in towns and monasteries, there were also numerous libraries of all kinds. Besides the monasterial libraries already mentioned to which belong the beautiful archiepiscopal libraries in Kromeriz, old and new (seventeenth and nineteenth centuries), the nobility possessed rich libraries in their castles and châteaux, as for instance the Lobkoviczes in Roudnice, the Hodejovsky, the Zerotins, and others. The famous library of Rozmberk, which at the beginning of the seventeenth century was cataloged in an exemplary fashion by its librarian Vaclav Brezan, possessed eleven thousand magnificently bound volumes, and was carried off to Sweden as war-booty in 1648.

The towns, too, had their libraries, both ecclesiastical and secular. Among the first of these was the municipal library of the City of Prague, mentioned for the first time at the beginning of the fifteenth century. During the Hussite wars more than one was destroyed; but in the second half of the fifteenth and in the sixteenth centuries, town libraries were zealously rebuilt. At Louny the priest Valtir in 1491 devoted his books to the local town library expressly "for the common good," just as seventeen centuries before the great library at Pergamon was, it is said, established and intended *ad communem delectationem*. Communal libraries at this time are mentioned at Chrudim, Ronov, Vodnany, Cesky Dub, and elsewhere.



THE NEW ARCHIEPISCOPAL LIBRARY AT KROMERIZ

The seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, a period of persistent Catholic attacks, mark an era of stagnation, of decay even of libraries, especially town-libraries. The persecution of Czech books by the Jesuit Order reached its highest point under the leadership of the notorious Jesuit fanatic Antonin Konias, by whom some thirty thousand Czech books are said to have been destroyed.

II.

Only after the Napoleonic wars, which awakened the nations of Europe to a new spiritual life, do communal libraries again appear in the Czech towns, the oldest being at Radnice (1813), Beroun (1831), Pisek (1841), and Holice (1845). Outstanding in its character as a "national" Czech library is the library of the National Museum dating from these years (1818), and rich in Slavonic literature; in Moravia a similar library was founded at the Provincial Museum in Brno, and in Slovakia in connection with the "Matice Slovenska," its possessions later being confiscated by the Magyars. In the nineties a new movement in favour of the establishment of libraries proceeds from the ranks of elementary school teachers, later spreading to the class of town dwellers, who during the whole century maintained a permanent interest in these institutions.

Those who have followed the developments of modern Czech libraries during the last fifty years, that is, since the seventies, distinguish in it three characteristic phases. While libraries during the years immediately preceding arose mainly owing to private initiative, and while they were still continually watched by the police department, and more than once confiscated (the Smichov library, for instance, which only ten years later, in 1859, was finally delivered from

the hands of the police), and while as late as 1866 the governor of Prague refused to approve the regulations of the communal library at Hronov, the early seventies, in a freer political atmosphere, are characterized by constantly growing statistics of collective initiative and a development scarcely ever hampered by officialdom. This is a period of powerfully spreading national self-consciousness, in which patriotic motives appear to prevail—for the people had to resist the reproach of national inferiority—but neither are there lacking the first general signs of a deeper conception of things, expressed so clearly by Karel Havlicek and propagated after him by Rezac and others. Twenty years later the wave rises afresh; and in this second period a considerable part is played by student and other associations, and Sokol, labor, and national unions. The narrow national character of the earlier tendencies now retreats to the background, the general cultural significance of libraries is now fully grasped. The third era, beginning about 1900 has a good foundation in the journal *Ceska Osveta*, and throught the period there is abundant progress in American and English ideas, culminating in the passing of the public library law of 1919, which signifies the complete victory of the Anglo-American orientation.

Each of these periods had its expression in library literature. The first era is symbolized by the "Advice and Hints on the Establishment and Direction of Libraries" by Frantisek V. Kodym, published in 1881, a thirteen-page pamphlet originating in teachers' circles, and owing its publication to the business instincts of a publisher, who appended to it an extensive list of his books for children. The book discussed the use of libraries and the means for their foundation, what books to buy, and how and where, "approved" and "not approved" works, what books school libraries should contain, the direction of libraries, the lending of books, teachers' libraries, and finally libraries for the people. By the latter are meant libraries which "are established by the commune or by some union—reading, theatrical, etc." He warns readers against "charlatan novels in parts," and points out that when lending books regard should be given to "what is lent, and to whom." Truly a very primitive manual, which as far as the technical side is concerned remains very much



MUSIC ROOM IN THE LOBKOVICZ LIBRARY AT ROUDNICE

below the level of the far more systematic tho older book of the kind by Ant. Hansgirk of 1839, or of E. Vocel, and nevertheless seriously aiming at an internal administrative reform of the school libraries of the time and more than one communal library.

The second era which saw the rise of what are now the greatest Czech public libraries—those of Prague, Litomysl, Prelouc, Jaromer, Vinohrady, Beroun—had as its leader and well-fitted technical adviser the keeper of the Prague University Library, Bohuslav Cermak. His "Foundations of the Library" appeared in 1893, and was directly devoted to the needs of communal and association libraries. This is a purely technical handbook, the first of its kind in Czech library literature; and while based upon Dziatzko and Grassauer, and hence propagating the German trend and accepting the terminology then current, seems now merely a mechanical recapitulation of the methods used in state libraries, with the author's critically different standpoint here and there expressed. The material with which the author deals never departs from the limits set by the title of the work; its subject is exclusively libraries: arrangement and administration of libraries, the lending of books, acquisitions, library accounts and stocktaking, together with appendices on "copies of first editions and manuscripts," on documents, pictures, maps, and etchings, and a list of a thousand selected books. The classification and the arrangement of the material are quite incorrect, but the hints themselves have here and there retained their value to this day.

The last era, as it was in practice, became in literature too a period of organization. *Czech Libraries* of 1900, in which B. Prusik published articles on libraries in England, was, it is true,



CHILDREN'S READING ROOM AT KLATOVY

only an episode; it disappeared with its seventh number, and having according to the publisher's leaflet only sixty-six subscribers, cannot have exerted any great influence; its supplement, containing Prusik's translation of the Brussels decimal classification, was, however, a feature of no small importance. Nevertheless the real and influential development of the reform movement first begins with the foundation of the journal *Ceska Osveta* in 1904, and the activities of the Svaz Osvetoy which was founded two years later. During the war it published "Advice and Hints on Public Libraries and Reading-Rooms" by the present writer, dealing entirely with modern practice. Post-war technical literature began with the same writer's "Public Libraries, their Development and Administration" (1919), which was soon followed by his further works, "Bibliological Classifying" (1920), "The New Mission of Libraries and Informative Institutes," and others. New library journals were founded—*The Book, Books and Libraries*—and apart from this growing literary activity it was especially owing to the constantly spreading influence of the Prague Library School that in the circles of its staff of teachers was born the idea of publishing a work which should serve as a technical textbook on libraries both for pupils of the school and actual librarians of all kinds, and so become an effective weapon for the complete vanquishing of that dilettantism which was rife even in professional circles. This is the large and richly illustrated work "Czechoslovak Libraries," published under the direction of Z. V. Tobolka in 1925.

The Czechoslovak law on public libraries which was mentioned above is the first of its kind on the Continent, and the influence on it of English and American legislation is unde-

niable. It enacted in broad outline that in every local commune in the Czechoslovak Republic, in which there is a school, a library should be established in 1920-1921, in other communes with a population of more than 300 by the end of 1924, and in the rest by the end of 1929. The libraries are maintained by taxes, contributions are fixed according to the number of inhabitants, the administration of larger libraries is entrusted to technically trained officials who have passed the state examination, and in the rest to individuals who have successfully taken monthly or other courses. By the fact that the establishment of li-

braries is made obligatory to all political communes, in which step it is impossible not to see a natural consequence of the analogous law on obligatory school attendance, the Czechoslovak law stands at the head of all similar legislative measures. In administration and inspection all the public libraries are under the control of the Ministry of Education and National Culture.

For purposes of technical training a state Library School in Prague opened in October 1920 with five expert teachers. The conditions for admission to the School require the secondary school certificate. Those who follow the courses successfully are entitled to posts in public libraries in towns of ten thousand inhabitants and over, and as regards conditions of service and salaries are placed as a whole on a level with the qualified communal officials.

The obligatory founding of public libraries also called into being an independent organization, the Association of Czechoslovak Librarians and their Friends, which now numbers more than one hundred and fifty members, and has for over four years been publishing its own organ, the *Journal of Czechoslovak Librarians*.

The oldest official statistical data on public libraries date from 1897. They concerned only Bohemia, without Moravia and Silesia, are only approximate, or rather, incomplete, and do not reflect the real conditions. According to them there were 271 public libraries with more than 450,000 volumes and 413,318 books lent. A further official enquiry in 1905 found 925 public libraries supported by the communes and 2,283 public libraries of other corporations, in all 3,208 libraries with 819,788 volumes. In 1910, 4,451 public libraries were found, 87 per cent of them being Czech, and possessing

1,279,433 volumes, or 30.2 volumes to every one hundred inhabitants.

Post-war statistical data naturally show a very considerable development due to the law on public libraries. According to the last published enquiry of 1924 there were in all the Czech lands excluding Slovakia, 7,694 public libraries with 3,956,686 volumes; 11,126,956 volumes were lent to 652,423 readers, and the library receipts amounted to 12,528,760 Czechoslovak crowns. The number of books to every one hundred inhabitants had grown to 41, and there was one library to every nine hundred and thirty inhabitants. In 1925 the law on public libraries was also extended to Slovakia, where there are now some two thousand libraries.

Where technique is concerned the small libraries follow the hints given in the handbook published by the Ministry of Education. The larger libraries generally go their own way, as the above-mentioned handbook, which is a kind of compromise between the old methods and the new, does not answer their requirements. The decimal classification is only used in a few of the larger public libraries such as those at Pisek and Jaromer. The State Library of the press department of the Prime Minister's office is also classified in an exemplary manner. Card-indexes are used as a rule. According to a ministerial decree every library must have at least an accession list, a shelf-list, an author-catalog, and a catalog specially designed for the needs of readers.

As yet there are few libraries which have their own building. Prague is now setting an example worth following by its magnificent building, which will probably be opened toward the end of 1927, entailing an expenditure of more than twenty-two million crowns. The exterior of the library is here reproduced.

Among the best organized and most prosperous of the larger public libraries are those at Beroun, Brno, Jaromer, Jicin, Kladno, Klatovy, where is an important children's department, Kolin, Kutna Hora, Litomysl, Moravska Ostrava, Olomouc, Pisek, Plzen, Polna, Svitavy, Tabor, Usti nad Labem, etc.

There remain to be briefly mentioned the state libraries, dating partly from pre-war times, partly since 1918, and supported entirely by state funds. Among the newly established libraries are especially those founded at the national ministries and the other central offices, and which are all reference libraries; also the university libraries in Brno and Bratislava and the library of the National Assembly. The other state libraries have behind them a fairly long past, especially the Prague Public and University Library, today the largest in the state together with the above-mentioned library of the National Museum and of the National Assembly, and which has

been in existence, as has been said, for nearly six centuries, being reorganized in its modern form by a decree of Emperor Josef II in 1777. It arose from the old Carolinum library (1343-1622), the Jesuit library of the Clementinum (1556-1777), the libraries of the disestablished monasteries and orders (1773-1781). In 1777 it was enriched by the library of Count Kinsky, in 1781 by that of Vaclav of Vresovice and the testament of the Master of Ertsfeld, in 1813 by Professor Bucek's library, and in 1837 by the Mozart manuscripts. It was considerably enriched in 1919 and the following years.

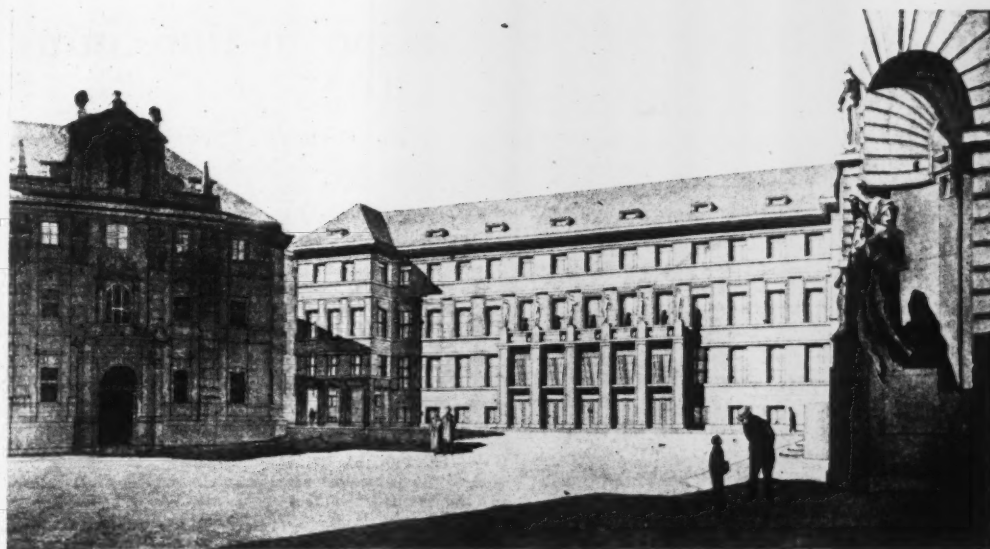
To the Public and University Library in Prague was in 1925 added the one-time state bibliographic institute, and transformed into the National Library, which took over its tasks, broadening its programme to embrace the tasks common to all similar institutions.

The library of the National Assembly, which had its origin in the older library of the Provincial Committee in 1918, publishes an "Exposé Sommaire des Travaux Législatifs de l'Assemblée Nationale," and serves in the first place the requirements of the deputies and senators of the two houses. Of older origin is also the library of the State Statistical Office, founded in 1856. Of the newer libraries special mention is due, besides the university libraries of Bratislava and Brno, which latter took over the books of the one-time Provincial Library (1818), to the library of the Polytechnical Institutes at Prague and Brno, the library of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, organized in 1920, which arose from the library of the Czechoslovak agents in Paris during the war and the library of the Czechoslovak peace delegation, and the Slavonic Library, which has some seventy thousand volumes.

Besides the University, where the individual faculties also have special reference libraries, mention must be made of the libraries of the technical, commercial, agricultural and other colleges.

Apart from the library of the press department of the Prime Minister's office, which is entitled to copies of books published in the "historic lands" (Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia), no Czechoslovak library has as yet the right to a copy of all the books published in the Republic. A bill for a copyright deposit is being prepared. The University Library in Prague is entitled to copies of the works published in Bohemia, the library of Olomouc to Moravian publications, the library of the gymnasium (secondary school) at Opava to works published in Silesia, and the University Library in Bratislava to Slovak publications.

The first Czech bibliographical works, disregarding the library catalogs dating from the twelfth century, are scattered throughout technical



PRAGUE'S NEW PUBLIC LIBRARY WHICH IS TO BE READY NEXT YEAR. TO THE LEFT, THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY; TO THE RIGHT, THE NEW TOWN HALL

journals, especially those of the library-historical type. The Nestor of Czech bibliography in the modern sense of the word is of course Josef Jungmann, whose bibliographical history of Czech literature, comprising written and printed Czech works from the earliest times, first appeared in Prague in 1825, and, in greatly extended form, in 1849. Jungmann (together with the eighteenth century V. Brezan) is the author of the original Czech bibliographical system, based on the given literature, which he was cataloging, and hence quite modern. It is an outstanding work, and the bibliographical information, reaching without interruption to the middle of the nineteenth century, is at the same time a record of all phases of Czech cultural work in the field of "belles lettres" and science.

Jungmann's work was continued by Fr. Doucha, who dealt bibliographically with the years 1774-1864. After Doucha the general national bibliography was first renewed by the publications of the Association of Czechoslovak Booksellers' Accountants, which dealt in the "Slavonic Bibliographical Catalogue" with the years 1877-1881, and in the "Czech Bibliographical Catalogue" with the years 1889-1903. The gap between 1865 and 1874 was filled by Fr. A. Urbanek in the Viennese "Oesterreichischer Katalog" and in his Czech *Bulletins*. From 1902 to 1911 appeared the *Czech Bibliography*, the work of Z. V. Tobolka. The years 1914-1918 have been treated in the form of a card-index catalog by J. Maj., K. Nosovsky, and the present writer.

In 1917 was founded the Czech Bibliographical Institute, which since 1922, under the editorship of the present writer, has published a *Bibliographical Catalogue* and a *Catalogue of Journals for 1920*. Since 1925 the National Library has continued this publication.

A new edition of Jungmann's "Bibliography," reaching to the end of the eighteenth century, is now being published by the State Bibliographical Commission. Besides, national bibliography has also been cultivated special bibliographical literature, in which field mention must be made of the following outstanding historical publications: C. Zibrt, "Bibliography of Czech History," in five volumes; the similar historical bibliography, devoted to modern times, which is being published by the Historical Club in Prague; and the religious bibliography, in which collaborated Ant. Tumpach and A. Podlaha. The other scientific branches have also their larger or smaller special bibliographical works.

The A. L. A. Committee on the Production of Children's Books has pleasure in announcing the reprint of Leslie Brooks's "Tailor and the Crow" by Frederick Warne and Co.

The edition is practically identical with the original edition except that it is bound in a stiff board cover instead of cloth. The list price is the same as the pre-war edition, namely one dollar.

ELVA S. SMITH, Chairman, A. L. A. Committee on the Production of Children's Books.

Public Library Administration in the United States 1918 - 1925

A PARTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY, EDITED BY FIVE LIBRARY SCHOOL STUDENTS: LETHA MARION DAVIDSON, WISCONSIN, 1923; ALBERTA LOUISE BROWN, WISCONSIN, 1923; KARL BROWN, ALBANY, 1925; DAVID J. HAYKIN, ALBANY, 1925; AND LESTER D. CONDIT, ALBANY, 1926.

Continued from the Library Journal for July

Organization (Con.)

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Boston, Mass. 1921:22:27-29.
Apportionment of \$100,000 book fund.
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Apportionment of \$5000 book fund.
Brooklyn, N. Y. 1923:20.
By court decision, library will receive appropriation in lump sum; makes budget possible.
— 1922:23.
Table of distribution from 1920 to 1924; percentages; comparison between budget and actual distribution.
Los Angeles, Calif. 1921:22:11.
Ideal selection for initial \$5000 branch order.
New York, N. Y. 1921:47.
3% of total appropriation spent for serials in reference.
— 1922:24.
Slightly more than half of book appropriation for periodicals.
Newton, Mass. 1924:8.
Percentage allotment of funds.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 1921:10.
Percentage of funds for new books, 36; of replacements 64; of fiction, 15.
Portland. 1922:4.
Summary of apportionment of "library dollar" in 1913, 1922; other data contrasted.

Queensborough, N. Y. 1920:19.

System of assigning money for binding in proportion to population abolished; reasons.
Savannah, Ga. 1921:15.

Percentage apportionment of funds.
Tacoma, Wash. 1919-20:21.

Accounting method changed to accrual basis.
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Washington, D. C. 1918-22. Public library estimates.
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ACCOUNTING

Cleveland, Ohio. 1922:23-46.

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— 1923:24-9.

Arrangements about contracts with the depositories of library funds.

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Salt Lake City, Utah. 1921:5.

Central heating for Main satisfactory except for cost.

— 1922:4.

Back to library heating plant.

San Antonio, Texas. 1924-25:10.

Oil furnace installed for heating.

Woburn, Mass. 1921:6.

Put in supplementary 1-pipe furnace in cold portion of building.

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See also BRANCHES AND STATIONS under INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

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Hadley, Chalmers. Denver's new libraries. *Lib. Jour.* 46:120-2. Feb. 1. 1921.

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South Attleboro supplies \$600 to condition room for a branch.

Boston, Mass. 1923-24:15-17.

Description and discussion of branches housed in municipal and private buildings.

— 1923-24:15-17.

Buffalo, N. Y. 1923-9:10. 17-18.

Branch buildings authorized.

Chicago, Ill. 1920:17-18.

New Legler regional building described.

Cincinnati, Ohio. 1924-25:27-28.

New building for Madisonville branch opened. illus.

Grand Rapids, Mich. 1923-24:19-21.

Some detail in description of new branch libraries and reading rooms.

Jersey City, N. J. 1922:1.

Bergen branch building, \$200,000 described.

— 1923:1.

Arrangement.

Louisville, Ky. 1922:13.

\$4,135.51 temporary wooden structure erected for branch; neighborhood gave site and \$2500; picture, frontis.

Oakland, Calif. 1920-21:1.

8 branches in rented quarters.

Rochester, N. Y. 1924.

Branch rent policy unsatisfactory; comments.

Sioux City, Iowa. 1924.

Advocate bungalow branch buildings.

STORE ROOMS

Chicago Ill. 1924:6-7 17, 18.

Rented quarters not satisfactory; only solution is "the creation of a Public Library Building Fund either by the issue of municipal bonds or by the authorization of an additional tax rate for this specific purpose." Store buildings good for publicity, but the "moral and cultural influence" is stronger in regular branch building. Find regular branches in school buildings impracticable.

Des Moines, Iowa. 1921-22:13-14.

Description of branch in store room.

ANNEXES

Allentown, Pa. 1922:14-15. 20.

Building enlarged. \$45,000; described.

Dayton, Ohio. 1923-24:10. 15-17.

Annex floor plan, description and discussion.

New Brunswick, N. J. 1924:3.

Henry Guest mansion placed on library grounds to house museum and library annex.

SAFETY

Los Angeles, Calif. 1920-21:14.

Fire ordinances prohibit gate register.

Davenport, Iowa. 1922:8.

Fireproof rooms in basement.

Equipment

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Addresses of firms dealing in library equipment.

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 Haverhill, Mass. 1924:24:25.
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 Jacksonville, Fla. 1922:10.
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 Kennedy, Helen T. Library equipment and furniture. *LIB. JOUR.* 50:159-162. Feb. 15, 1925.
 Summary of equipment needed in various departments. Many things often overlooked.
 Library Bureau. Library furniture: planning and equipping the library. 1923. Library Bureau, gratis.
 Suggestions about furniture, with statistics of loads, and measurements of chairs and tables.
 Stearns, Lutie E. Furniture and fixtures. In her *Essentials in library administration*. 1922. p. 70-76.
 Discussion of floors, walls, lighting, shelving, furniture, etc.; particularly for the small library.
 Walter, Frank K. Library furniture specifications. *LIB. JOUR.* 50:163-5. Feb. 15, 1925.
 Procedure in submitting specifications to bidders as used in furnishing new library of the University of Minnesota. Detailed specifications for furniture for large building.
 Yust, William F. Folding book case. *LIB. JOUR.* 46:307. April 1, 1921.
 Description of book case which can easily be transported for use. Picture given.
 Cincinnati, Ohio. 1922:23:13.
 Special cases for periodical indexes.
 Davenport, Iowa. 1923:11.
 Built-in display cases for art books.
 Des Moines, Iowa. 1921:22:8.
 Art dept. has case with glass doors for valuable books and pictures.
 Fall River, Mass. 1922:14.
 Macmillan book rack proves popular in children's room.
 Grand Rapids, Mich. 1923:24:52.
 New artistic screens for corridor use.
 Northampton, Mass. 1923:13.
 Map case constructed of old walnut table and shelves.

- Portland, Me. 1922:17.
 Public writing tables with stationery for sale useful and popular.
 Salt Lake City, Utah. 1920:7.
 Hard wood built-in cases in reference room.
 Tampa, Fla. 1922:23:2.
 Purchased closed case for magazines kept for binding; saves loss.

FLOORS, WALLS AND CEILINGS

- Kilgour, M. B. A satisfactory floor covering. *Pub. Libs.* 29:231. May 1924.
 Describes satisfactory long use of battleship linoleum.
 Tweedell, Edward D. Floor coverings. Supplement to *Ill. Libs.* 4:154-156. Oct. 1922.
 Discussion of linoleum and cork types of floor covering. Prices, etc.
 Cleveland, Ohio. 1920:21:30.
 Sound proof ceilings of main floor in Superior branch.
 Lancaster, Mass. 1924:8.
 Steadman fibre-rubber "tile" floor covering proves satisfactory.
 Salt Lake City, Utah. 1923:4-5.
 Cork carpet in reading room, adds comfort and quiet; resurface flat roof, bid included 10 year guarantee.
 Somerville, Mass. 1924:9.
 Aid indirect lighting by whitening ceilings.
 Tacoma, Wash. 1919:20:10.
 Improve building by putting wooden covering on cement floors in catalog room, etc.

SUPPLIES

- Brooklyn, N. Y. 1921:42.
 New system of patronizing single concern saves \$600 yearly in laundry bill.
 1922:36-37.
 Saving in buying lemon oil, crude oil, varnish, alcohol and ink in bulk.
 Providence, R. I. 1923:4.
 Order and auditing department handles all supply orders.
 St. Louis, Mo. 1920:21:30.
 Adopted requisitions for supplies; saves several hundred dollars; supply list standardized.

Repairs and Remodelling

- Lowe, John Adams. Rural library building. *Architectural Record*. 46:451-6. Nov. 1919.
 Outlines essentials of library building and shows how these have been achieved in a library made out of an old dwelling.
 Small-town library building. *House Beautiful*. 47:9-11. Jan. 1920. illus.
 Sub-title: How an old house remodeled with taste and a little money may serve as a home for the public library.
 Scott, J. A. New libraries out of old. *Wilson Bull.* 2:259-262. Sept. 1924. illus.
 Shows possible alteration of old dwelling for library purposes.
 Baltimore, Md. 1924:32.
 Repairs to Central Library building.
 Cambridge, Mass. 1922:23:9.
 Repairs on central building; battleship linoleum and new lighting.
 Davenport, Iowa. 1923:9-15.
 Building remodelled for \$186,033.78; described.
 Denver, Colo. 1923:4.
 Auditorium and public meeting rooms converted into reading and filing rooms, because of congestion in main building.

- Evansville, Ind. 1923:1.
 New main quarters have no provision for children.
 — 1924:1.
 Purchase of *Journal News* building; arrangement, and relations of department in remodelled building.
 Flint, Mich. 1922-23:2; 1923-24:3.
 Move children's department out into temporary building to relieve congestion.
 Indianapolis, Ind. 1917-22:21.
 Irvington branch moved to remodelled dwelling.
 Manchester, N. H. 1923:10.
 Glass partition between children's and periodical rooms.
 Natick, Mass. 1921:5-10.
 Plans for enlargement of building; cost estimate. illus.
 New Britain, Conn. 1923-24:6.
 Enlarge children's room and add equipment.
 New Brunswick, N. J. 1923:3.
 Tin roof over book stacks replaced with new patent roof carrying ten-year guarantee.
 Oakland, Calif. 1921-22:10.
 Building renovated for \$2900.
 Richmond, Va. 1922-24:1-3.
 Remodel old residence to serve as main building; description of library interior after changes made.
 Sioux City, Ia. 1922:1.
 Repairs and improvements.
 Worcester, Mass. 1923-24:8-9.
 Suggests moving current newspaper room to outside quarters to relieve congestion.

Insurance

- Somerville, Mass. 1922:22.
 Carry insurance upon wooden branch structure and books at bindery.
 Tacoma, Wash. 1921:9.
 \$1000 insurance on each of 2 branches; covering clause given.

Personnel

QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF LIBRARY WORKERS

- Barney, Mrs. Kate W. Practical points for library workers. *N. H. Pub. Libs.* 21:2-8. Sept. 1925.
 — Suggestions for library service. *Vt. Lib. Comm. Bull.* 21:9-11, 24-28. Sept., Dec. 1925.
 Cook, Mrs. L. B. High school assistants in the library. *Mich. Lib. Bull.* 16:4-6. Sept.-Oct. 1925.
 Dana, John Cotton. Learning one's own library. *Pub. Libs.* 23:461-462. Dec. 1918.
 Henry, William E. Equivalents. *Lib. Jour.* 50:906-907. Nov. 1, 1925.
 Against elaborate personnel schemes.
 Buffalo, N. Y. 1920:11.
 Add publicity expert.
 St. Louis, Mo. 1920-21:65.
 Have qualified physician on staff.
 — 1922-23:73-75.
 Discusses sick leave; chart of sickness and season.
 — 1923-24:77-78.
 Staff average less than 5½ days sickness; chart as above; list of diseases and days absent.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

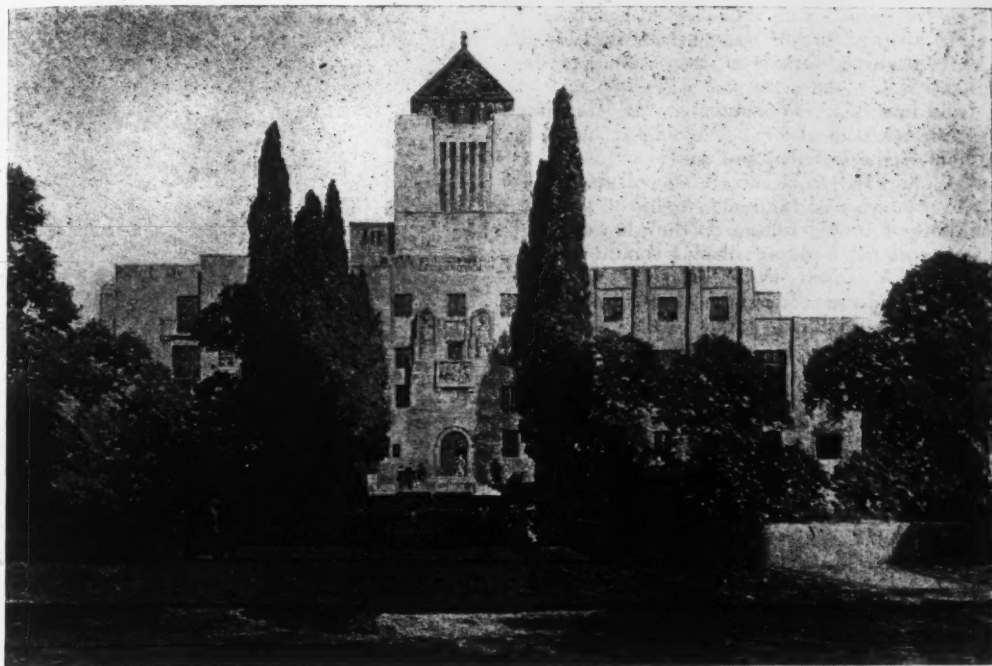
- Chicago, Ill. 1924:32.
 57 per cent staff turnover as against 70 for previous year.

HOURS

- Bostwick, Arthur E. Library staff. In his *American public library*. Ed. 3. rev. & enl. 1923. p. 201-214.
 Division of duties, hours, vacations, salaries, staff meetings, etc.
 Brubaker, Lura. Hours of service. *Mich. Lib. Bull.*

- 8:84-87. Sept.-Oct. 1917.
 Statistics of libraries in different states.
 Fair, Ethel M. A unit for library service. *Wis. Lib. Bull.* 21:172-174. July, 1925.
 Hours, budget, salaries.
 Hours of labor in the library. *Pub. Libs.* 22:109. March 1917.
 Moffett, J. C. Closing libraries on holidays. *Pub. Libs.* 27:16-17, 84-85. Feb. 1922.
 Love, F. D. Library hours in summer. *Ill. Libs.* 4:152-154. Oct. 1922.
 Welles, Jessie. Hours of opening. *Wis. Lib. Bull.* 16:42-43. Apr. 1920.
 Same article quoted in *N. Y. Libs.* 7:111, Aug. 1920.
 Atlanta, Ga. 1924:3.
 Reference department open until 9 p.m.
 Brooklyn, N. Y. 1920:24-25; 1921:29.
 Vacations during staff shortage arranged by closing all branches at 12 Saturday from June 20 to Sept. 26; Sunday hours 4-6; entire staff on duty during week.
 Buffalo, N. Y. 1922:21.
 School branch open from 8:20 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Chicago, Ill. 1921:15.
 Economy measure forces closing at 7 p.m.; no hardship.
 — 1923:36-37.
 Reference and civics departments adopt shifting schedule to cover desks entire day; eliminates special evening less-efficient force.
 Dayton, Ohio. 1923-24:12-13.
 Schedules systematized; discussion.
 Des Moines, Ia. 1923-24:20.
 Branches have reduced opening hours from May to December.
 Erie, Pa. 1922-23:10.
 Circulation open evenings, successful.
 Manchester, N. H. 1920:12.
 Children's room opened at 11 a.m. in summer to save assistant.
 — 1920:14.
 Keep art room open Saturday evening instead of Saturday morning; economy, but works well.
 New Haven, Conn. 1920:9.
 Decrease in circulation with earlier closing hours shows shorter hours undesirable.
 Oakland, Calif. 1924-25:14.
 Time of opening for McChesney station changed from five to three afternoons a week; does not affect use in any way.
 Portland, Me. 1922:21.
 Library open only half-time during August and September.
 Salt Lake City, Utah. 1924:4.
 Close branches to half time; use other half of branch staff time in Main for economy; not successful. Other methods of retrenchment.
 Tacoma, Wash. 1923:15.
 All members in circulation and branches work 3 evenings weekly as part of regular schedule.
 SUNDAY OPENING
 Sunday opening. *Pub. Libs.* 27:30. Jan. 1922.
 Brief argument for Sunday opening.
 Amherst, Mass. 1924:5-6.
 Description of Sunday afternoon meetings for music and lectures during winter.
 Bangor, Me. 1922:16.
 Start Sunday opening from 2 to 6 p.m.
 Dayton, Ohio. 1921-22:23.
 Sunday opening, telephone service for reference and circulation desks in whole system.
 Fitchburg, Mass. 1923:5-6.
 Close Sundays from June 10 to Oct. 1; satisfactory.
 (To be continued)

Significance of Los Angeles' New Library



ARCHITECT'S SKETCH OF THE EXTERIOR OF THE LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

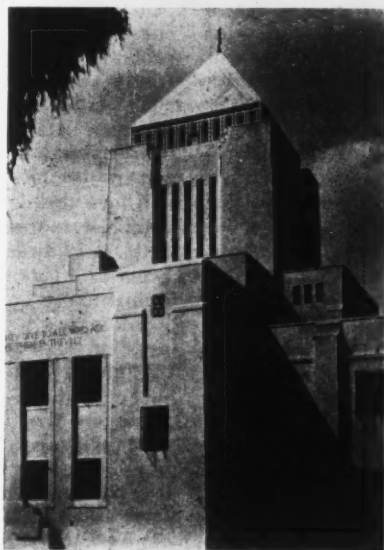
THE formal dedication of the Los Angeles Public Library took place on July fifteenth when the new building passed from the hands of the architect at the site, Carleton Monroe Winslow, to the care of the Board of Library Commissioners and the administration of the Librarian, Everett R. Perry. Incomplete in many details, with the sculpturing and landscaping revealing the promise of much greater beauty, the building nevertheless stands as a monument to the name of the architect, Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, and to those whose vision has conceived and executed this temple dedicated "to the power of the Word."

As we consider the exterior from any one of a hundred angles we cannot fail to feel the balance, the sweep of the straight lines of the cube and the prism, rising to a beautifully proportioned climax in the square

tower crowned with the finial hand bearing aloft the torch of knowledge. The austerity of the great plain walls is to be relieved by the scheme of sculptures and inscriptions which is revealed,

as yet, only in the tower figures and in the sculptures on the south front where the six figures representing types of literature and wisdom are emerging from the carver's chisel.

As we enter from any of the six entrances and make our way to the rotunda with passages radiating to the various reading rooms we find breath-taking height in the great vaulted rotunda, beauty in the colors and intricate patterns painted on the concrete arches, severity in the plain white walls. It is hoped to place on these walls at some future time, the supreme murals and final decoration of the library. As we pass from one great room to another, finding in every one of the thirteen spacious



TOWER DETAIL

reading rooms a gracious sense of leisure and invitation; as we observe the color harmonies of the ceilings reflected in the backs of the books on the shelves, contrasting with the soft gray of the walls, we find again numberless details of beauty awaiting our closer inspection and delight.

It is interesting to know that Mr. Goodhue expressed his ideal of "designing a building without a single frill" and said:

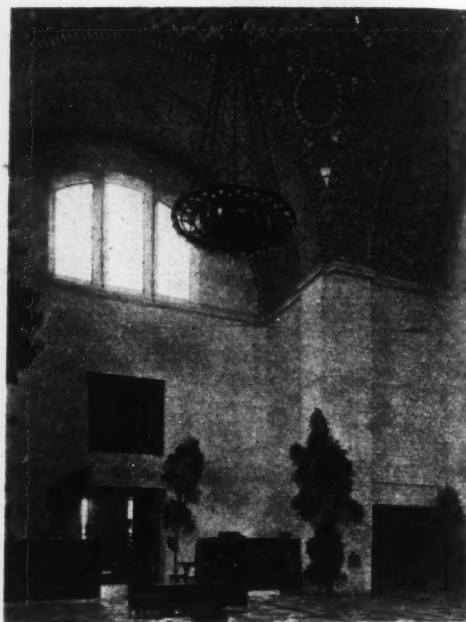
"I should like to be merely one of three people to produce a building, i.e., architect, painter, sculptor. I should like to do the plan and the massing of the building; then I should like to turn the ornament to a perfectly qualified sculptor, and the color and surface direction to an equally qualified painter—the designing triumvirate."

Later, in selecting Dr. Hartley Burr Alexander of the University of Nebraska to compile the explanatory inscriptions and sculptural theme of the Nebraska Capitol Building and the Los Angeles Library, Mr. Goodhue said: "Apparently, in Dr. Alexander, I have found the ideal fourth member of the building 'quadrivrate.'"

The theme of the inscriptions and sculptures chosen for the Los Angeles Library is that of the torch of knowledge handed on from generation to generation thru the illuminated book. Figures of the great sages, philosophers and litterateurs representative of all countries and times and the impersonal figures of the poet, the philosopher, the thinker and the writer, portray the human personalities which have kept the torch of knowledge burning thru the book.

The torch of learning, held aloft in a human hand which is entwined with the serpent of wisdom is the symbolic finial to the tower, which is in itself an inspiring climax to the piled masses of plain walls. The pyramidal apex of the tower is treated with tile in the Spanish manner. On the four square sides of the tower are the eight "apostles of light" whose images, Dr. Alexander states, "are a fitting crown for a library which is temple and custodian of their light. These eight colossal figures, nestled against the walls of the tower, each bear a distinguishing symbol. David carries the temple. St. John the eagle; Homer with the lyre, is paired with the other blind poet, who has a small figure with the flaming sword; Plato with the dodecahedron, symbolic of the universe, faces Dante with the three keys; Shakespeare with the tragic mask and Goethe holding the Gates to Paradise, complete the eight seers."

Each of the doorways will be relieved with sculptures or inscriptions. The limestone prepared for the carving is incorporated into the structure of the building, awaiting the touch of the carver. The most elaborate scheme is to



THE ROTUNDA. IN THE REAR, THE CATALOG;
INFORMATION DESK, CENTER

be worked out on the south entrance centering in a book set in rays of light, flanked by the figures of the Thinker and of the Writer. On the pages of the open book we read the phrases from the Vulgate, "Lucerna pedibus meis . . . lumen semitis meis" (a lamp to my feet . . . a light to my paths) expressive of the power of the word. The inscription imitated from de Senancour, "In the world of affairs we live in our own age; in books we live in all ages," repeats the thought of the potency of books. Above the pool is the phrase "Wisdom is the ripest fruit of much reflection" adapted from Longinus' *De Sublimate*, and at the lower entrance, is the invitation "Books invite all; they constrain none."

Above the doorway are the six buttress figures, the expression of the masters of History, Letters, Philosophy, Statecraft, Fine Arts and Science. The three figures which have been completed so far reveal the distinctive quality of Lee Lawrie's work as well as the perfect incorporation of sculpture into the structure of the building. Lawrie's description of the sculptures suggested by Goodhue and carried out by his hand on the Nebraska Capitol are equally appropriate here: "Sculpture, here, is not sculpture, but a branch grafted on to the architectural trunk. Forms that portray animate life, emerge from blocks of stone and terminate in historic expression."



MURALS BY J. E. GARNSEY AND A. W. PARSONS
IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

The individuality of the completed figures is a revelation of what may be done by a sculptor who possesses the genius of Lee Lawrie. No one could mistake the peering gaze of Copernicus, now emerging from the carver's chisel, or the calm poise of Justinian, statesman. The majestic deep-seeing Herodotus contrasts sharply with the fascinating homeliness of Socrates. It seems scarcely less than miraculous to watch the carvers at work on the stone column, with the staff model from the Lawrie studio beside them, with compressed air chisel chipping the stone into the perfect reproduction of Lawrie's study.

The west front bears the verse from Lucretius, "Et quasi cursores vitae lampada tradunt" ("Like runners they bear on the lamp of life" explanatory of the carved panel of the torch race. Above the doorway the Morning and Evening Stars, Heralds of Light, carry scrolls containing the names of the great thinkers and philosophers of the eastern and western civilizations.

The north entrance has on the cornice inscription the translation of Richard de Bury's apostrophe to books in the Philobiblion, "Books alone are liberal and free; they give to all who ask; they emancipate all who serve them faithfully." Here the Los Angeles Coat-of-Arms will be flanked by impersonal figures of the poet and the philosopher. The terrace door leading to the rooms of Art and Music welcomes the book-lover with the words: "Love of the beautiful

illuminates the world" and at the sides of the doorway the verses from Job and Psalms; indicating the two arts, "The morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy," and "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth his handiwork."

The children's entrance has special treatment with a globe of adventure to be carved above the doorway, and the figures of the story-teller and the child. Above is the verse arranged by Dr. Alexander: "Books are doors into fairyland; Guides unto adventure; Comrades in learning." Two mischievous caryatides, Puck and Titania, beckon to the children from the sides of the doorway.

There will be sculptures within the Children's Court where little stone seats and a fountain will invite out-door reading. And at the head of the great stair-hall, the crowning work of Mr. Lawrie will be placed with a statue of civilization wrought in marble, and a black marble sphinx on either side guarding the stairs. On the leaves of the book held in the arms of a sphinx will be an inscription in Greek, which is interpreted, "I am all that was, and is, and is to be, and no man hath lifted my veil." Here, the veiled sphinx in contrast to the theme of the illuminated torch of knowledge, signifies the unplumbed depths of the infinitude of Mind.

The other member of the building "quadrivirate" the mural painter, is Julian E. Garnsey of Los Angeles. Feeling keenly the honor of the task assigned to him in the decoration of the rooms designed by Goodhue, Mr. Garnsey declared that only after long study of the architect's purpose and treatment did he begin working out the designs suggested by the Goodhue Associates. "The painter's art must seem to be the architect working thru the painter," he states, and in theory and execution he has subordinated his work to the structural lines of the ceilings, tending not to conceal but to reveal the beauty of line and harmony of proportion.

The great vaulted rotunda is of first importance in the interior decoration, receiving the most elaborate color and pattern, bringing out the design of the vault on pendentives with twenty-four leaves or facets, in the twenty-four pointed star, binding the vault together by a running design at the level of the supporting arches. Next in importance is the reference room with its harmonious progression of beams, treated in subdued browns toning in with the rich oak of the furniture and bearing in the center of the beams, various shields of historic interest. Other main reading rooms are subordinated in color and richness of design, each one carrying a color scheme that is remarkably satisfying.

In the children's room alone, the walls are covered with murals. Here the painter has been

allowed full sway. Mr. A. W. Parsons in collaboration with Mr. Garnsey, has depicted in bold beautiful figures, the story of romance and chivalry woven from the book of "Ivanhoe." The children's delight in finding their favorite characters in action in the twelve scenes which portray Scott's much loved story, is no greater than the adult's satisfaction in the glories of color and illustrative treatment of the walls, toned and softened by the old Norman ceiling (painted on the concrete beams in imitation of wood) and repeated in the colorful shelves of books. A room that invites young and old, that brings a new sense of the beauty of literature and the romance of life.

We have approached, then, the ideal in the architect's mind, a building massed in superb proportions and lines by the architect, decorated, without, by the perfectly structural sculptures, within, by the painter whose hand was ever guided by the purpose and plan of the designer, and finally symbolized, expressed and given voice by the skill and lore of the student of literature, the epigrapher. These four and their many associates and assistants have been upheld by the constant, untiring and sympathetic support of the Librarian and the Library Board. Together, they have provided a house for the wisdom of all time to be gathered, stored and disseminated—a true public library.

FAITH HOLMES HYERS, *Publicity Department,*
Los Angeles Public Library.

In our number for February 1 appeared a story of the Los Angeles library system and in a later number will appear plans and a description of the building from the administrative point of view.—Ed. L. J.

Genealogical Research Service Offered American Libraries

FROM Mr. Frederick Adams Virkus, editor of the *Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy*, comes a proposal to American libraries which we print with the request that those librarians wishing to avail themselves of the *Compendium's* further service communicate directly with Mr. Virkus at 440-442 South Dearborn Street, Chicago.

Mr. Virkus writes in part:

"The *Compendium* had its inception as a war measure and the files compiled for the government in 1917-18 are the nucleus upon which it is based.

"These files became my private property upon termination of the war but I feel that they are in a measure a public trust and it is for this

reason that I would make them available to the public, free of charge, thru the public libraries.

"My idea is that libraries wishing to serve their patrons in finding lineages be supplied with questionnaires to be filled out by inquirers with such data pertaining to their ancestors as they may have. These blanks would then be mailed to us for such data as we may be able to add or for suggestions as to where more might be found, and the blanks would then be remailed to the library.

"Our files, which have been augmented by extensive research and by contributions from many sources, including practically all of the national patriotic-hereditary societies of the country, are now without doubt the most extensive genealogical files extant. They are so arranged that over 100,000 complete American lineages and upwards of 1,000,000 names of ancestors, thru several generations from the founding of the nation up to the Revolution, are available for instant reference.

"I realize that the service I propose might easily overwhelm the department I am prepared to create for this purpose; but I should like to try it out.

"I have no ulterior motive in offering this service gratis, other than good will and national service. I do not even believe that this service on our part would result in placing more copies of our books in libraries because we already have sold to practically all those that could afford books at the price we are compelled to charge."

Free On Request

The American Institute of Accountants has issued thru its Bureau of Public Affairs a bulletin on bankruptcy problems, discussing the weaknesses of the bankruptcy system of which complaint had been made and which led to the amendment of the National Bankruptcy Act. The changes in the law are clearly indicated. The letter-bulletin is intended to inform business men, bankers, credit men, attorneys, and others as to changes in the law and their probable effect. Copies may be had upon request to the American Institute of Accountants, 135 Cedar Street, New York.

Mr. Louis Pirc, editor of the *Ameriska Domoovina*, a Cleveland Slovene paper, has edited and published a history of the United States in Slovene, "*Ameriska Zogodovina*." The work is excellently printed and is in paper cover. This is the only history of the United States in the Slovene language. Mr. Pirc has twenty copies to give away to libraries. Thereafter the price is seventy-five cents, but libraries may buy it for fifty cents. Address, Mr. Louis Pirc, 6119 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

Books for All in Greenville County, S. C.

AN adequate library service for all the people of Greenville County is the goal of the Greenville Public Library, as much now at the end of its fifth year, which witnessed a circulation of 225,703 volumes (from a book stock of 31,056) as in 1921-1922 when only 34,447 books were issued. Assured financial support derived from taxation, a building of its own in a central downtown location, and a school department to serve the teachers of the city and county are things still to be accomplished, writes Charlotte Templeton, librarian.

In quarters the library has grown from the one small



IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM TEMPORARY CARPENTER-MADE FURNITURE IS SERVING ITS PURPOSE



THE BOOK TRUCK'S DAILY ROUND IS NEVER DULL

room on Coffee Street to a three-story building on North Main, and already has so nearly outgrown the two floors devoted exclusively to library work that it is seriously considering the time when it will be necessary to use the lecture room space on the third floor for library purposes. The staff has increased from one person to eleven persons on full time, a full time janitor, two part time workers at the main library and two part time librarians at the branches at Greer and Fountain Inn. It has a personnel of unusually high grade. Six are college

graduates, five graduates of library schools, and two others have had extended library experience.

The field of potential service covers, in addition to the city population, the large textile mill population, the rural population and the negro population. The 90,000 county population may be roughly divided as follows: 20,000 white population in the city of Greenville, 20,000 negroes in the city and county, 35,000 textile mill employees and their families, and 15,000 rural white population. From the background of education and opportunity of the groups,



GREENVILLE IS PROUD OF ITS NEGRO BRANCH

it can readily be seen that the number of persons who already had the reading habit was small. To develop readers, from these non-reading groups, it has been necessary to place library facilities within their easy reach. One truck is in service five days a week for direct service as a sort of perambulating branch. A second truck is used chiefly to carry books back and forth for deposit collections. Deposit stations are maintained in rural and high schools, in stores, banks, and private homes. There are two sub-branches in small towns in the county (Greer and Fountain Inn) and a full branch for negroes in the Phillis Wheatley Community Center.

The A. L. A. Philadelphia Exhibit

THE Exhibit Committee can now report that the Philadelphia display of the A. L. A. is practically complete. Outside of a few minor details and the perfection of the electrical apparatus on the large maps, the exhibit is ready for the public and presents a most attractive appearance.

The general arrangement of the material is in accordance with the diagram printed in our number for May 1. The exhibit on university libraries is the only section not complete. A wealth of valuable and highly instructive material from all over the country was sorted out under the direction of Mr. Clarence Sumner, who, unfortunately, could come for only a six weeks period ending June 18. He was succeeded by Miss Mabel True from the A. L. A. Headquarters who continued until July 1 helping in the arrangement of the material for display. The Chairman of the Committee has been spending Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays of each week at the exhibit since July 1.

There are items scattered thru the exhibit which, if given careful study, may mean the saving of many dollars to individual libraries. The printing press from which will be produced full lists and circulars is now in operation. Mr. Louis Geib of Cleveland having been engaged for this work. The manufacturers of the M-24 printing press have kindly lent an equipment valued at about fifteen hundred dollars. The new type Munder Venezian which has just been perfected by the well known typographer, Norman Munder of Baltimore, and is just coming on the market is to be used. The type foundry, Messrs. Barnhart Bros. & Spindler have donated a complete equipment of type valued at four hundred dollars.

In fact the Committee has been most fortunate in getting the co-operation of outside concerns to supplement its small budget of \$8500. The immense display maps of the California Library System and the Cleveland Public Library together represent an expense of twenty-three hun-

dred dollars, of which only five hundred dollars has come out of the exhibit budget, the rest being contributed by the California and Cleveland Library groups.

Mrs. T. deB. Lovett (Caroline Webster) took charge of the exhibit on July 17 and will continue until September 1. Miss Sabra Nason well known in county library work, has assisted in the preparation of the exhibit June 1 to July 24 and Miss Mary Lingenfelter will assist Mrs. Lovett in the supervision of the exhibit thru the entire season.

In spite of the serious difficulties which confronted the Committee, it seems that the exhibit has turned out most successfully. The elaborate plans which were formed nearly two years ago had to be largely given up at the late date of March 20, but the lack of assurance that there would be an educational building and A. L. A. exhibit made it impossible to do any of the preparatory work until a very late moment. The impossibility of finding any trained person who could continue thru the entire preparatory period and the delays in the date of getting into the building itself have been most embarrassing. The library profession has been most considerate.

Acknowledgment will be made later to the chairmen of various committees and other helpers who have done so much in planning and helping to sort the material. The Committee has further plans for publicity to be sent back to the home newspapers and distributed from the local libraries if this can be financed from the exhibit budget. The Committee will welcome criticisms and suggestions except those arising from the impossibility of showing individual local items for lack of space. If a librarian feels that something sent in from the home library is more significant or interesting than the item chosen to represent the idea, the Committee hopes he will feel free to call its attention to the fact.

At the present writing it has not been decided whether to open the exhibit on Sundays and it seems fairly certain that the exposition will be open during the year 1927.

JOSEPH L. WHEELER, *Chairman*
JENNIE M. FLEXNER
LLOYD W. JOSSELYN

A. L. A. Exhibit Committee.

Less than \$1700 of the \$35,000 aimed at for the A. L. A. Fiftieth Anniversary Fund remained to be reported in on July 15. With three states still to be heard from and later reports expected from others this sum ought soon to be raised or oversubscribed.

A Pioneer: The Library Bureau

By HARRY R. DATZ

IN 1876 Melvil Dewey, Justin Windsor of Harvard University, Mr. Greene of the Worcester Public Library and a few other prominent librarians met at Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia and formed the American Library Association.

At that meeting it was decided to form a central bureau which would furnish supplies to libraries. Up to this time each library had depended upon the personal efficiency of its own librarian and nothing was considered as standard in either library equipment or supplies.

As secretary of the Association, Melvil Dewey started that year the Readers' and Writers' Economy Company with headquarters in Boston on Franklin Street. In 1877 Mr. H. E. Davidson was engaged by Mr. Dewey to act as an assistant in the business. Two years later larger quarters were needed and the company moved to 32 Hawley Street. From that year, Mr. Dewey turned over the active control of the business to Mr. Davidson. The name of the company was changed to Library Bureau in 1882.

Up two dark flights of stairs at 32 Hawley Street was a single room in which was kept a display of bookcases, reference book holders, card catalog cases, and in two glass show cases were shown L. B. book supports, catalog cards, guide cards, book cards and pockets, etc.

The first catalog cases were made with two rows of cards in a drawer. Some of these cases after forty-five years are still in use, one now at Lehigh University is shown below.

From this modest beginning grew a well rounded service in supplying libraries with their every need but the books,—library furniture, charging desks, wood and steel bookstacks.

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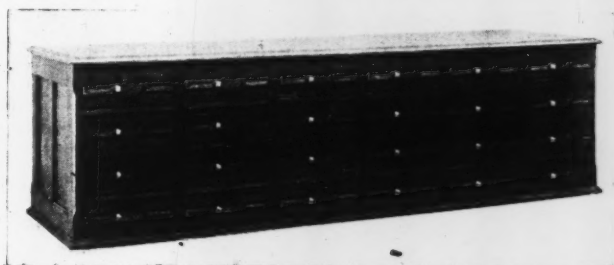
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This state of affairs continued until 1895. At this time the A. L. A. met at Denver. So little interest was taken in this meeting, however, that

it can readily be seen that the number of persons who already had the reading habit was small. To develop readers, from these non-reading groups, it has been necessary to place library facilities within their easy reach. One truck is in service five days a week for direct service as a sort of perambulating branch. A second truck is used chiefly to carry books back and forth for deposit collections. Deposit stations are maintained in rural and high schools, in stores, banks, and private homes. There are two sub-branches in small towns in the county (Greer and Fountain Inn) and a full branch for negroes in the Phillis Wheatley Community Center.

The A. L. A. Philadelphia Exhibit

THE Exhibit Committee can now report that the Philadelphia display of the A. L. A. is practically complete. Outside of a few minor details and the perfection of the electrical apparatus on the large maps, the exhibit is ready for the public and presents a most attractive appearance.

The general arrangement of the material is in accordance with the diagram printed in our number for May 1. The exhibit on university libraries is the only section not complete. A wealth of valuable and highly instructive material from all over the country was sorted out under the direction of Mr. Clarence Sumner, who, unfortunately, could come for only a six weeks period ending June 18. He was succeeded by Miss Mabel True from the A. L. A. Headquarters who continued until July 1 helping in the arrangement of the material for display. The Chairman of the Committee has been spending Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays of each week at the exhibit since July 1.

There are items scattered thru the exhibit which, if given careful study, may mean the saving of many dollars to individual libraries. The printing press from which will be produced full lists and circulars is now in operation. Mr. Louis Geib of Cleveland having been engaged for this work. The manufacturers of the M-24 printing press have kindly lent an equipment valued at about fifteen hundred dollars. The new type Munder Venezian which has just been perfected by the well known typographer, Norman Munder of Baltimore, and is just coming on the market is to be used. The type founders, Messrs. Barnhart Bros. & Spindler have donated a complete equipment of type valued at four hundred dollars.

In fact the Committee has been most fortunate in getting the co-operation of outside concerns to supplement its small budget of \$8500. The immense display maps of the California Library System and the Cleveland Public Library together represent an expense of twenty-three hun-

dred dollars, of which only five hundred dollars has come out of the exhibit budget, the rest being contributed by the California and Cleveland Library groups.

Mrs. T. deB. Lovett (Caroline Webster) took charge of the exhibit on July 17 and will continue until September 1. Miss Sabra Nason well known in county library work, has assisted in the preparation of the exhibit June 1 to July 24 and Miss Mary Lingenfelter will assist Mrs. Lovett in the supervision of the exhibit thru the entire season.

In spite of the serious difficulties which confronted the Committee, it seems that the exhibit has turned out most successfully. The elaborate plans which were formed nearly two years ago had to be largely given up at the late date of March 20, but the lack of assurance that there would be an educational building and A. L. A. exhibit made it impossible to do any of the preparatory work until a very late moment. The impossibility of finding any trained person who could continue thru the entire preparatory period and the delays in the date of getting into the building itself have been most embarrassing. The library profession has been most considerate.

Acknowledgment will be made later to the chairmen of various committees and other helpers who have done so much in planning and helping to sort the material. The Committee has further plans for publicity to be sent back to the home newspapers and distributed from the local libraries if this can be financed from the exhibit budget. The Committee will welcome criticisms and suggestions except those arising from the impossibility of showing individual local items for lack of space. If a librarian feels that something sent in from the home library is more significant or interesting than the item chosen to represent the idea, the Committee hopes he will feel free to call its attention to the fact.

At the present writing it has not been decided whether to open the exhibit on Sundays and it seems fairly certain that the exposition will be open during the year 1927.

JOSEPH L. WHEELER, *Chairman*
JENNIE M. FLEXNER
LLOYD W. JOSSELYN

A. L. A. Exhibit Committee.

Less than \$1700 of the \$35,000 aimed at for the A. L. A. Fiftieth Anniversary Fund remained to be reported in on July 15. With three states still to be heard from and later reports expected from others this sum ought soon to be raised or oversubscribed.

A Pioneer: The Library Bureau

By HARRY R. DATZ

IN 1876 Melvil Dewey, Justin Winsor of Harvard University, Mr. Greene of the Worcester Public Library and a few other prominent librarians met at Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia and formed the American Library Association.

At that meeting it was decided to form a central bureau which would furnish supplies to libraries. Up to this time each library had depended upon the personal efficiency of its own librarian and nothing was considered as standard in either library equipment or supplies.

As secretary of the Association, Melvil Dewey started that year the Readers' and Writers' Economy Company with headquarters in Boston on Franklin Street. In 1877 Mr. H. E. Davidson was engaged by Mr. Dewey to act as an assistant in the business. Two years later larger quarters were needed and the company moved to 32 Hawley Street. From that year, Mr. Dewey turned over the active control of the business to Mr. Davidson. The name of the company was changed to Library Bureau in 1882.

Up two dark flights of stairs at 32 Hawley Street was a single room in which was kept a display of bookcases, reference book holders, card catalog cases, and in two glass show cases were shown L. B. book supports, catalog cards, guide cards, book cards and pockets, etc.

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only forty-five librarians east of Pittsburgh attended.

The demand at this time for a periodical dealing with the problems and in the spirit of the growth of the new library era was most insistent, with the result that the officers of the A. L. A. took under consideration the proposition to found another library periodical to be issued somewhere in the Mississippi valley.

But no one came forth to effect the idea, until the Library Bureau put it in tangible form in 1896 with the first issue of *Public Libraries* (now *Libraries*) with Miss Mary Eileen Ahern as editor, which position she has held single-handed for the past thirty years.

The Library Bureau applied the library card idea to business records and introduced the now generally accepted card index, card ledger and other card systems for which the commercial world owes a debt of gratitude to libraries and the Library Bureau.

L. B. invented or originated the tab card, tab guides, celluloid guides and the verticle file. A Library Bureau salesman had to carry a card tray under his arm to show business men what it was like. For many years L. B. blazed the trail for the vertical file, while other manufacturers were condemning it, for the horizontal or flat system of filing.

Library Bureau is now a part of the Rand Kardex Bureau, Inc., which has as other divisions the Globe Wernicke Co. and the Safe Cabinet Company. The friends of the Library Bureau may rest assured that it will continue with undiminished force and activity in every department—library supplies and furniture, bookstacks and service for which it has justly gained an enviable reputation as the original and the world's foremost library equipment house. The highly developed personnel of the Library Department will carry on in studying library problems and in serving the interests of librarians as heretofore.

A. L. A. Membership Now 8171

A. L. A. membership has increased just over twenty one per cent during six months of this year, from 6745 mounting to 8171 and leaving less than twenty per cent to glean of the 10,000 membership which it is hoped to report at the fiftieth anniversary conference in October.

Of the six states with the greatest gain, New York leads in membership with 1112 and in increase—286 or over thirty-two per cent—Ohio's twenty-five per cent increase brings her membership up to 705. California and Pennsylvania now tie with 461 members each, being a gain of just over twenty per cent for Pennsylvania and just under forty per cent for California while increases of nearly twenty-four and nearly four-

teen per cent respectively give totals of 544 and 580 for Massachusetts and Illinois.

A. L. A. Officers for 1926-27

ABOUT the middle of the month the ballots will be sent out. The nominating committee consisting of H. H. B. Meyer, Chairman, June R. Donnelly, Frank P. Hill, Sydney B. Mitchell, John Ridington, has submitted the following names:

President: George H. Locke.

First Vice-president: Carl B. Roden, Joseph L. Wheeler.

Second Vice-president: George F. Bowerman, Anne M. Mulheron.

Treasurer: Edward D. Tweedell.

Trustee of Endowment Funds: Melvin A. Taylor.

Members of the Executive Board (two to be elected): Francis K. W. Drury, Theresa Hitchler, Ernest C. Richardson, Elva S. Smith.

Members of the Council (five to be elected): Frederick W. Ashley, Nina C. Brotherton, Angus S. Fletcher, George W. Fuller, Lloyd W. Jesselyn, Clarence B. Lester, Harold L. Leupp, Henry O. Severance, Edward F. Stevens, William F. Yust.

Russian Libraries and Reading Rooms

IN the Commercial Handbook of the Union of Social Socialistic Republics (Washington, D. C.: Russian Information Bureau, 1926) appear some interesting figures on facilities for reading: "In 1924 the 58,391 establishments for adult education in the Soviet Union included 14,300 schools for illiterates and semi-illiterates, with an attendance of nearly 500,000 pupils. . . .

"The army maintained 4,500 reading rooms, called 'Lenin Corners,' in 1925. During 1921, 10,051,801 books were borrowed by soldiers from the army libraries. . . .

"12,000 provincial reading rooms were equipped with radio receiving stations." "Book publishing statistics show in 1924: 15,600 titles and 900 million copies."

The Romance Languages department at Yale has made the graduate course in Bibliography in the Graduate school obligatory for the Doctor's degree.

Catalogs Received

Books, some low-priced Americana and other items of interest. Philadelphia: Newman F. McGirr. Cat. 66.

Selections from recent purchases, also bargains. Cat in some cases as low as one-half. Philadelphia: Newman F. McGirr. 38p. illus. Cat. 65.

Catalog 67 (general). Philadelphia: Newman F. McGirr. 36p. illus.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

AUGUST, 1926

THE semi-centenary visitors from other countries, and indeed American librarians, too, will have reason to open their eyes wide in the A. L. A. exhibit, the first to be installed in the educational building at Philadelphia which is immensely to the credit of Chairman Wheeler and his associates of the Exhibit Committee. The appropriation of \$8500 has been spent to best purpose and has been supplemented by volunteer work and by the expenditures of local libraries such as the Cleveland electrically illuminated and operated map of its public library system and the California map showing in like manner the methods of supplying books thru a county system. These are but the most notable of the many informing features, such as the children's library with its carefully selected collection.

THE semi-centenary year promises to repeat in bibliographical publications, and indeed increase, the output of 1876. That year included the publication of the great Government volume on libraries with Cutter's rules as its appendix and marked the beginning of Frederick Leopoldt's American catalog of books in print in the centennial year. The sesqui-centennial, which is the semi-centenary of the A. L. A. has already seen the revival of Charles Evans' catalog of books printed in America of which still another volume is under way and some progress is being made in rounding up Captain John Smith, that terror and stumbling block of bibliographers, so that Mr. Eames and Mr. Lydenberg's committee of the Bibliographical Society hope to see a new part of the Sabin dictionary thru the press within the year. Mr. H. W. Wilson has his staff at work on the comprehensive re-issue of the United States catalog, for publication next year, when also it is hoped to print thru his press the definitive edition of the Union List of Periodicals. This great enterprise has grown in the hands of the committee until in place of the forty thousand titles originally reckoned nearly seventy-five thousand are in sight. The expenses of this work were guaranteed by the subscription of nearly fifty libraries or groups of Institutions of three hundred dollars a year for three years, but it is found that the enterprise

cannot be completed on the new scale without extending this support, and it would be a pity to attempt the difficult task of weeding out sufficient titles to bring the number back to the contemplated forty thousand. Therefore, the co-operating institutions are asked to subscribe three hundred dollars for a fourth year, making twelve hundred dollars each, for which they will receive the corresponding number of copies at fifty dollars a copy. The enterprise is a colossal one and the publication will be of increasing value with the years, in pointing out where complete or imperfect sets of periodicals are to be found for reference by those libraries which lack sets or completing volumes. As the smaller libraries become able to purchase this great tool the subscribing libraries will be able to recoup themselves in large part for their investment while making possible a treasure house of information the value of which to themselves can scarcely be over-estimated. It is hoped, therefore, that all subscribing libraries will strain a point to meet the desire of the Committee for the further support which has been found necessary.

THE present year will be noteworthy for at least two important library openings. Philadelphia will welcome its sesquicentennial visitors at its new public library building, one of the most modern of library edifices, which will be the finest of exhibits for our foreign visitors, and on the Pacific coast Los Angeles has its magnificent library open to the public. The opening of the new public library at Asheville, N. C., marks another milestone in library progress in the south. At last Brooklyn, thanks to Borough President Gulder, has its appropriation for the completion of the west wing of its central building after waiting thruout the eight years of the Hylan administration for that boon. The University of Illinois has the first unit of the great building which is proposed for its library, inclusive of its library school, and Dartmouth College has broken ground for its million dollar building, the gift of one of its loyal alumni. This is progress indeed, from one end of the country to the other.

Library Book Outlook

TRAVEL-BOOKS lead in the past fortnight's new-book offerings.

In René Jutra's *Concerning Corsica* (910.4, Knopf, \$2.75), the author, again accompanied by her artist brother, appears to have fallen in love with this sunny, beautiful island at first sight, and its shortcomings seem as dear to her as its charms. *Northern Lights and Southern Shades*, by Douglas Goldring (914.8, Houghton-Mifflin, \$5), contains travel-impressions of Brittany and Scandinavia, similar in manner to the author's recent "Gone Abroad." *A Wayfarer in Egypt*, by Annie A. Quibell (916.2, Houghton-Mifflin, \$3), is a record of travel as well as a guide-book. *A Wayfarer in Unfamiliar Japan*, by Walter Weston (915.2, Houghton-Mifflin, \$3), is a careful study and description of the less-frequented corners of the land. *Peking to Lhasa*, by Sir Francis E. Younghusband (915.1, Houghton-Mifflin, \$5), is the narrative of journeys in the Chinese Empire made by the late Brigadier-General George Pereira, of the British Army. In *Unknown New Guinea*, by W. J. V. Saville (919.5, Lippincott, \$6), is an illustrated record of twenty-five years of personal observation and experience.

Three travel-books on our own country are: *Enchanted Trails in Glacier Park*, by Agnes C. Laut (917.8, McBride, \$3); *Boston in Seven Days*, by Clarence R. Athearn (917.4, McBride, \$1.50); and *Philadelphia*, by Horace M. Lippincott (917.4, Macrae-Smith, \$2.50).

There are three biographical works worth mentioning. *Letters of Louise Imogen Guiney*, edited by Grace Guiney (Harper, 2 v., \$5), contains the correspondence of this noted American poet and essayist, who died in 1920. *Echoes and Memories*, by Bramwell Booth (Doran, \$2.50), gives the impressions and experiences of the great Salvation Army leader. *Ranching with Roosevelt*, by Lincoln A. Lang (Lippincott, \$4), presents a picture of Roosevelt as a cowboy in the Dakota bad lands, by a companion rancher.

Pan-Europe, by Richard N. Coudenhove-Kalergi (327, Knopf, \$2.50), presents a plan for the confederation of Europe, as proposed by the head of the Pan-European Union in Vienna.

Opium, the Demon Flower, by Sara Graham-Mulhall (178, Vinal, \$2.50), is a book on drug-addiction, by a former official in the Department of Narcotic Drug Control of New York State.

The Mind of the Millionaire, by Albert W. Atwood (177, Harper, \$2.50), is a psychologic study of the rich man, written by an established writer on finance.

Science-books include *The Romance of the Fungus-World*, by R. T. Rolfe (589, Lippincott,

\$3.50), showing the rôle played by the mushroom and its allies, in fact and in legend; *The Romance of Comets*, by Mary Proctor (523, Harper, \$2.50), in which the scientific facts about famous comets are simply told; and *Selected Articles on Evolution*, compiled by Edith M. Phelps, in the Wilson Company's Handbook Series (575, Wilson, \$2.40).

Hilaire Belloc has a new volume of essays on a variety of topics. It is entitled *Short Talks with the Dead, and Others* (824, Harper, \$3).

In another book, *Of Many Things* (818, Boni-Liveright, \$3), Otto H. Kahn, the distinguished American financier and patron of the arts, gives his impressions of international affairs, domestic problems, and the arts.

Typical Elizabethan Plays by Contemporaries and Immediate Successors of Shakespeare, edited from the early editions by Felix E. Schelling (822, Harper, \$4), is a generous volume of 307 pages.

Types of Poetry, by Jacob Zeitlin (821.03, Macmillan, \$4), is an anthology arranged not chronologically but according to the various types of poetry.

A variety of new fiction is offered in E. Barrington's *The Exquisite Perdita* (Dodd-Mead, \$2.50), a novel based on the life of Perdita Robinson, who became the mistress of George IV of England; Rex Beach's *Padlocked* (Harper, \$2), a present-day story of a father who has a reforming-zeal, and his daughter who is driven from home by his intolerance; G. K. Chesterton's *The Incredulity of Father Brown* (Dodd-Mead, \$2), further stories in which this keen-witted priest plays the part of detective; James Oliver Curwood's *The Black Hunter* (Dodd-politain Bk. Corp., \$2), a historical novel about Quebec in the 1750's; Jackson Gregory's *The Desert Thoroughbred* (Scribner, \$2), a Western ranch-story playing on the Mexican border; Irvin Cobb's *Prose and Cons* (Doran, \$2), more humorous sketches and short stories, in some of which Old Judge Priest reappears; and three other mystery-stories, J. S. Fletcher's *Marchester Royal* (Doran, \$2), the same author's *The Great Brighton Mystery* (Knopf, \$2), and Agatha Christie's *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* (Dodd-Mead, \$2).

Some noteworthy recent new books on Philosophy subjects that have already been more or less fully covered by existing books are: *The Story of Philosophy*, by Will J. Durant (109, Simon and Schuster, \$5); *Human Experience*, by Viscount Haldane (100, Dutton, \$2); *How to Understand Philosophy*, by Albert Edward Baker (107, Doran, \$1.25); *Witchcraft and the*

Black Art, by J. W. Wickwar (133, McBride, \$2.50); Understanding Our Children, by Frederick Pierce (136.7, Dutton, \$2); The Gang-Age, by Paul H. Furfey (136.7, Macmillan, \$2); The Pre-School Age, by Minnie E. W. Kamm (136.7, Little-Brown, \$1.50); Personality, by R. G. Gordon (137, Harcourt-Brace, \$3.75); Mind

and Its Place in Nature, by Durant Drake (150, Macmillan, \$2); Outline of Abnormal Psychology, by William McDougall (150, Scribner, \$4); Common-Sense and Its Cultivation, by Hanbury Hankin (151, Dutton, \$2.50); Pleasure and Pain, by Paul Bousfield (157, Dutton, \$2).

LOUIS N. FEIPEL

Library Organizations

The A. S. L. I. B.

BALLIOL COLLEGE, Oxford, the scene of the second conference of the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureau, last year, will again be the meeting place for the Association in its third conference during the week-end of next September 24-27th. The Report of Proceedings of the Second Conference (pap., 206p., 5s.) has recently been published by the Association. Among the many detailed and comprehensive papers there presented may be mentioned Professor A. F. C. Pollard's address on "The Decimal Classification of the Institut International de Bibliographie and Its Importance as a Key to the World's Literature," "Some Special Methods of Cataloguing Temporary Materials", by L. Stanley Jast; "Efficient Filing", by R. Borlase Matthews; "Patents and Special Libraries", by H. E. Potts; and "The Work of the Imperial Institute Library," by H. J. Jeffrey, librarian of the Institute.

The formal inauguration of the Association followed this second conference. The A. S. L. I. B. had its beginnings in a conference held at Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire (see L. J., vol. 50, p. 705-707) in September 1924, on the initiative of organizations engaged in industrial research, to consider some of the problems confronting those concerned in collecting and utilising information. Great interest was shown, and the conference appointed a Standing Committee. The Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees set aside a grant of £1500 to finance the proposed organization during the first two years of its existence. An Organising Secretary was accordingly appointed and an office opened in London in April 1925. Last March at a meeting held at the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, the new Association was formally inaugurated and a governing Council elected. Following negotiations with the Library Association, a constitution is being drafted for the A. S. L. I. B., provision being made for affiliating with that body. The first piece of work to be undertaken by the Association is the preparation of an annotated directory of the special sources of information that exist in Great Britain and Ireland, which it is hoped to have ready for press by midsummer of 1927. As soon as circumstances permit the Association,

in pursuance of its general policy, will investigate such matters as the co-ordination of abstracting; the registration of translators who are experts both in the subject matter and in the language requiring translation; and the increased provision of photographic and other copying apparatus. "The main work of the Association, however, must remain the exploration and development of channels for co-operation in the interchange of non-confidential information and experience."

American Library Association

BOOK BUYING COMMITTEE

COPYRIGHT CREEPS AN INCH

THERE was copyright legislation at the recent session of Congress, but minor in character. The fight for general revision goes over till December. Neither the excellent Perkins bill, drawn in the Copyright Office and supported by the educational and bar organizations, nor the Vestal bill, prepared by commercial interests led by the Bowker and Putnam companies, was reported out of committee in the House, or even introduced in the Senate.

The character of the measure to be offered the House has, however, been pretty well determined. The authors have made an inglorious peace with the publishers and printers. The musical composers have compromised advantageously with the mechanical reproducers—the phonograph, motion picture and radio groups. The line-up next time will, therefore, be the familiar one of the paying public versus those who have wares to sell. No librarian, in the interval between sessions, should miss an opportunity of bringing home to his or her Representative or Senators the real nature of the revolutionary proposal made by the publishers to interfere in our ready acquisition of British books. It has no counterpart the world over. The attorney for the British authors concedes what we request, but three or four New York publishers block the way. If they succeed and the law is enforced, it will be unsafe to order any book in the English language without first ascertaining (from the Copyright Office) whether there be an American edition, for in that case the order for the desired original must be made from the American publisher—and the proposal

is retroactive. The design is to frighten importers, so that reprinting of salable British books should become general—and the public is to pay the double bill, as it did for the Encyclopedia Britannica to the tune of \$200,000 extra. We must not let them get away with this, but keep our ancient privilege of buying legitimate books where and as we will.

The inch gained at the last session was copyright protection for works produced by processes other than typesetting, photo-engraving or lithography, which are alone recognized in the present law. This concerns mimeographed issues especially. The amendment will aid university professors and other teachers who wish to test out their texts in temporary form before printing.

M. LLEWELLYN RANEY, *Chairman*,

A. L. A. Committee on Book Buying.

Western Massachusetts Library Club

OFFICERS elected at the annual meeting with the Massachusetts Library Club at Plymouth, June 25-26, are: President: Henry R. Huntting, Springfield; vice-presidents, Edith L. Little, City Library, Springfield, and Kenneth Boyer, librarian, Westfield Athenaeum; secretary, Ruth Abbott, librarian, Ludlow, and treasurer, Mildred White, Memorial Square Library, Springfield.

New England School Librarians' Association

AT a meeting of the Association held on June 26 at Plymouth, Mass., in connection with the Massachusetts Library Club's annual meeting, Mable F. McCarnes of the Peddie School, Hightstown, N. J., and instructor in school library work at the Columbia University Summer School, was the principal speaker and the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Bertha V. Hartzell, Dana Hall, Wellesley, Mass., vice-presidents, Dorothy Hopkins, Abbot Academy, Andover, Mass., and Susan James, Rhode Island College of Education; secretary-treasurer, Caroline R. Siebens, High School, Brookline, Mass.

Oklahoma Library Association

OFFICERS elected at the spring business meeting of the Oklahoma Library Association held in connection with the Southwestern Library Association's meeting were: President, Mrs. Elsie D. Hand, A. and M. College, Stillwater; vice-presidents, Ruby Canton, Edmonds, and Mrs. N. E. Kohler, Pawhuska; secretary, Mrs. Cora Case Porter, Muskogee; and treasurer, Bess Stewart, Oklahoma City.

MYRA S. GROSH, *Secretary*.

Library Opportunities

No charge is made to subscribers to the LIBRARY JOURNAL for insertion of notices in this department.

POSITIONS OFFERED

Cataloger experienced in analytical indexing of scientific and technical material. C. H. 14.

Wanted, substitute in a western university library for one year. Loan desk and reference work. Library school training desired. Salary about \$1,900. O. M. 14.

A southern state university wants a chief of circulation department September 1. College and library school graduate who will accept \$1,800 for the first year with definite prospect of an increase at the end of the year. New well equipped building with growing library. One month's vacation. G. F. 14.

Wanted: Senior reference assistant. College graduate with library training and experience is desired. Salary—seventeen hundred dollars. Apply to librarian, University of Montana, Missoula, Mont.

The Farmlly Billings Library at Billings, Mont., will be in need of a loan desk assistant and children's librarian Sept. 1. Applicants please give educational qualifications, experience, age and references.

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for an Editor of Scientific Publications, salary \$3,000.

Applications for this position must be on file at Washington, D. C., not later than September 7. The examination is to fill vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, and in positions requiring similar qualifications.

The duties of this position will be to analyze the content of scientific and technical manuscripts; to determine the accuracy of the data given and the conclusions drawn; to suggest ways and means of improving the presentation from a literary standpoint and of strengthening the publication from a scientific standpoint, and to scrutinize typographical details of printing form and style.

Competitors will be rated on practical tests in editing, and education and experience.

Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the board of U. S. civil-service examiners at the post office or customhouse in any city.

POSITIONS WANTED

Librarian with two years' experience as head of a small college library and two years of college work, wants new position in September. N. X. 14.

Librarian, college graduate with teaching experience in a large system, wishes position as high school or college librarian or head of a branch. East preferred. M. R. 13.

Young woman, knowing English, French and German, and with experience in cataloging, wants position in college or university library. S. O. 13.

Librarian of highest university standing (M.A. with Honours in Languages and Literature, Litt. D. by examination) seeks position of responsibility where scholarship is appreciated. Equipped for administrative duties. Extensive general education and knowledge of European languages, literature and history. Competent to deal with incunabula and Americana. Two years' Library of Congress experience. Address: Dr. Frederic F. Walter, 203 East Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

Current Literature and Bibliography

The first volume of the "World List of Scientific Periodicals published in the years 1900-1921," containing the titles of 24,128 periodicals has been issued by the Oxford University Press and a second volume giving the libraries filing each will soon be ready. A review of this volume will be published in an early number of the JOURNAL.

After a ten years' interval appears a fourth edition of Gilbert O. Ward's "Practical Use of Books and Libraries" (Boston: F. W. Faxon Co., 1926, 139p. illus. \$2. Useful Reference series no. 32), a manual planned "to provide very elementary instruction for young persons, such as high school students and library apprentices . . . , and to serve as an outline for teachers or librarians who have to give such instruction . . . not to inform the trained student"

The A.L.A. announces a new policy with regard to the distribution of publications. It will henceforth pay express and postage on all orders, hoping thereby to give better service to its customers as this will obviate the necessity of holding bills for transportation charges and will make it possible to mail invoices the same day goods are shipped.

It will necessitate a slight change in prices of publications which will be announced soon in a new edition of "Books and Pamphlets on Library Work."

Books recommended in Edwin E. Slosson's "The Physical Sciences" in the A. L. A. Reading with a Purpose Series are:

- Bragg, Sir William. Concerning the nature of things. Harper, 1925. \$3.
Chamberlain, Joseph S., ed. Chemistry in agriculture. Chemical Foundation, 1926. \$1.
Hendrick, Ellwood. Everyman's chemistry. Harper, 1917. \$3.
Howe, H. E., ed. Chemistry in industry. 2v. Chemical Foundation, 1926. \$1 each.
Russell, Bertrand. The A B C of relativity. Harper, 1925. \$2.50.
Slosson, Edwin E. Creative chemistry. Century, 1919. \$3.
Whitman, Walter G. Household physics. Wiley, 1924. \$2.50.

Publication will be either in September or October.

In the well-known Standard Catalog Series published by the H. W. Wilson Company of New York, appears now the "Standard Catalog for High School Libraries," being a selected list of 2,600 books chosen from over six thousand titles voted on by co-operating librarians. Part 1, now ready, is a classified list with notes to help in selection, and there are author and title and subject indexes. Books for first purchase are starred—about one thousand titles—and those most desirable are double starred—about 200

titles; where possible the authority for notes is given, prices, Dewey decimal class numbers, lists of publishers, etc., etc., in the style familiar to users of the standard catalog series abroad, and annual supplements are promised. Part 2 will be a dictionary catalog.

The prospective opening last year of a public library branch in the municipal field house in Sherman Park in St. Louis led to the assignment of branch libraries in field houses as a topic for investigation and report by first assistants desiring to qualify for appointment in Class A (department heads or branch librarians) in the St. Louis Public Library. The candidates found in the literature of librarianship scant mention of field-house branches and little, if anything more, came to light in the files of *Playground*, the organ of the Playground and Recreation Association of America.

Diligent investigation by fourteen candidates, carried on for the most part by their direct correspondence with those librarians thruout the country "in any way suspected of having a contact of some kind with a recreation center," resulted in fourteen reports which have since been compiled and edited by Ruth Robi, librarian of the Sherman Park Branch, to form a 28-page number of that library's Bulletin (for July) entitled "Branch Libraries in Field Houses." A six-page list of books and articles on community and social centers by Florence Crutcher is an important part of this pioneer contribution to the literature of library extension.

The *Yale University Library Gazette* devotes its first number (June 1926) mainly to the copy of the Gutenberg Bible recently acquired by Yale. Brief papers by Professors Andrew Keogh and Chauncey Brewster Tinker respectively tell of "The Gutenberg Bible as a Typographical Monument" and "The Significance to Yale of the Gift of the Gutenberg Bible." Mr. Keogh in preface writes briefly of Melk on the Danube, near which has stood since 1089 a Benedictine Abbey with a library now rich in manuscripts and incunabula (363). The chief of these was last year sold to a London bookseller, Mr. Edward Goldston, who sent it to the Anderson Galleries, where it was sold last February to Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach for \$106,000, and from Dr. Rosenbach it was purchased by Mrs. Edward S. Harkness to give to Yale as a memorial to Mrs. Stephen V. Harkness.

A happy coincidence is the receipt of funds to publish the *Gazette* and the announcement of the gift of the Gutenberg Bible. The *Gazette* is to be edited and published quarterly by the Yale Library staff and printed at the University Press, with the purpose of describing the various collections in the library, the new building, etc.

Among Librarians

Louis J. Bailey, 1907 New York State, who has just completed four years work as librarian of the Flint (Mich.) Public Library will go to Indianapolis on September 1 as director of the Indiana Library Department in which are consolidated the former State library, the library commission, and other related departments. Mr. Bailey's short period of administration at Flint has seen an increase in the book collection from thirty to over one hundred thousand and in registration from fifteen to thirty-eight thousand while circulation has leaped from 200,000 to 645,000, staff from twelve to thirty and income from \$19,000 to \$70,000. Indiana librarians will welcome back Mr. Bailey formerly for over a dozen years librarian at Gary, which city released him for national Library War Service (supervisor and dispatch agent New York District) in 1918 and 1919.

Frances Wyatt Baker, whose poem "Blue Bowl" appears in the June *Scribner's Magazine* (page 624), is secretary to the librarian of the Johns Hopkins University Library. The editorial introduction in *Scribner's* says: "Frances Wyatt Baker hid her talent in the Johns Hopkins University library until Doctor M. L. Raney, the librarian, read some of her verses. He showed them to Lizette Woodworth Reese, who advised him to attempt to have them published. John Erskine and Walter de la Mare, when they read her work, joined the chorus of praise."

Demarchus C. Brown, who has almost completed twenty years of service as Indiana State Librarian when the State Library was consolidated with other related departments in the Indiana Library department has been made Librarian emeritus and book consultant to the new Department.

Charles A. Flack, 1926 Illinois, has been appointed cataloger and classifier at the library of St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kansas.

Jennie M. Flexner who is working at the University of Chicago in connection with the library curriculum study on loan work was inadvertently listed as a Simmons graduate in a recent number of the *JOURNAL*. Miss Flexner who is head of the circulation department of the Louisville (Ky) Public Library is a graduate of the Western Reserve Library School.

Richard Garnett's "The Twilight of the Gods and Other Tales" reappears in the Knopf Jade Library (304p., \$3) with the same introduction by T. E. Lawrence that prefaced the illustrated John Lane edition. It is something of a misfit here, altho serving its purpose of reminding the amazed reader that the author of "The Demon Pope" and "Alexander the Ratcatcher"

—and all the other tales in which an ironic fancy controls an imposing erudition—spent the major part of his life as superintendent of the reading room and keeper of printed books at the British Museum.

Wilhemina Harper, supervisor of children's work at the Kern County (CValif.) Library, has published with Harcourt Brace and Company under the title "Fillmore Folk Tales" a selection from "Mighty Mikko" and "The Laughing Prince."

John C. B. Kwei, the librarian of Shantung Christian University, Tsinan, China, is to be curator of the Chinese Collection of the Columbia University Library for two years beginning in September. Mr. Kwei is a graduate of Boone University, Wuchang, and of the Boone Library School, of which Miss Mary E. Wood is director. After leaving the library school in 1922, he was for a time assistant librarian of the Peking Union Medical College. At present, he is president of the Tsinan Library Association. During his residence at Columbia Mr. Kwei will work for his master's degree in the School of Library Service.

Last year, Mr. Kwei published thru the Augustine Library of Shantung Christian Library, "Dewey's Decimal Classification and Relative Index for Chinese Libraries," a volume dedicated "to Mary Elizabeth Wood, pioneer in the Chinese Library movement."

May Lilly, 1924 Drexel Institute, and Western Reserve, 1925, has returned to the Free Library of Philadelphia as children's librarian in charge of the children's room in the central library which will soon be open to the public.

Albert R. Nichols succeeds Orlando C. Davis as librarian of the rapidly expanding Hammond (Ind.) Public Library. Mr. Nichols had been at the Library of Congress before going to the Providence Public Library as assistant librarian in 1910. For the last few years he has held the post of secretary to the librarian of that widely extended system. Mr. Davis, as already announced, is the successor of the late Henry M. Sanborn as librarian of the Bridgeport (Conn.) Public Library.

Mary E. Robbins, who is in charge of the library economy course at the Columbia University Summer School, becomes head of the reference department of the Utica (N. Y.) Public Library, October 1st, succeeding Mary M. Topping whose resignation after long service in that post has been accepted with regret by the Trustees.

Ethel Wigmore, 1916 Simmons, has been appointed assistant librarian of the National Health Library, 370 Fifth Avenue, New York

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